

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with William B. Ashley (51,419).

2. The application has been amended as follows:

Claims 8-14 cancelled.

Claim 17 (Currently amended) A non-transitory computer-readable medium having instructions stored thereon which are executable by a network host processing system for facilitating service discovery by performing steps comprising:

receiving service discovery queries from a service discovery agent;

discovering services within a domain of the network host in response to the service discovery queries, wherein the domain of the network host includes a local service discovery protocol operating via a local network and a remote service discovery protocol operating via an Internet host;

providing results of the services discovered within the domain of the network host to the service discovery agent, wherein the results are provided in a uniform format that is independent of the vocabularies and behaviors of the local and remote service discovery protocols; and

accessing services within a domain of the service discovery agent.

Claim 18 (Currently amended) The non-transitory computer-readable medium according to Claim 17, further comprising instructions to allow network entities within the domain of the network host to access services within the domain of the service discovery agent.

Claim 23 (Currently amended) A non-transitory computer-readable medium having instructions stored thereon which are executable by a mobile terminal processing system for providing service discovery by performing steps comprising:

receiving service discovery queries in a user format;

transforming the user formatted service discovery queries into a plurality of formats relating to a plurality of service discovery protocols, wherein the plurality of service discovery protocols include a local service discovery protocol operating via a local network and a remote service discovery protocol operating via an Internet host;

receiving service discovery results in a plurality of service discovery protocols in response to the service discovery queries; and

transforming the service discovery results into a uniform format that is independent of the vocabularies and behaviors of the plurality of service discovery protocols.

Claim 24 (Currently amended) The non-transitory computer-readable medium according to Claim 23, further comprising instructions to perform steps comprising:

Art Unit: 2445

providing the service discovery queries to a network host; and
receiving responses from the network host in response to the provided
service discovery queries.

Reason for Allowance

3. Claims 1-7 and 15-24 are allowed.
4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

As per the Board of Patent Appeals' decision on the instant case, the board has reversed the rejection of claims 15-18 under USC § 102 (e) as being anticipated by Tsai and rejections of claims 1-14 and 16-24 under USC § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Tsai and Monroe, however the board has affirmed the rejection of claims 8-14 under USC § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Therefore, claims 8-14 are cancelled and claims 1-7, 15-24 are allowed.

In addition, Applicant has also agreed to amend claims 17-18 and 23-24 to incorporate the term "non-transitory" to the claimed "computer-readable medium" in order to properly render the claim(s) in statutory form in view of their broadest reasonable interpretation in light of the originally filed specification.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LIN LIU whose telephone number is (571)270-1447. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 7:30am - 5:00pm, EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Caldwell, Andrew can be reached on (571) 272-3868. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Lin Liu/
Examiner, Art Unit 2445

/HASSAN PHILLIPS/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2445